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LETTER DATED 3 SEPTEMBER 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued on 30 August 1999 clarifying its position on the report of the "Tokyo Forum for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament".

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) KIM Chang Guk
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Statement by the Spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued on 30 August 1999

in recent years, Japan is getting frantic in a campaign against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, submitting to the United Nations the report of the "Tokyo Forum for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament". The "Tokyo Forum" has not been recognized internationally as it was cooked up by Japan seeking to cover up its ambition for nuclear armament and military power and improve its image in the international arena.

Japan reportedly hosted the "Tokyo Forum" late in July and engineered the adoption of a "report" thereon. The "report" kept silent about complete abolition of nuclear weapons, the key issue of nuclear disarmament, but impudently raised the nuclear and missile issues of some countries pursuing self-defense in the face of outsiders' constant threats, and even provoked United Nations bodies including the Geneva Conference on Disarmament.

More dangerous is the fact that the report maliciously slanders the system of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and lets loose a string of open criticism of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, arguing that it is a root cause of instability in northeast Asia.

A number of participants in the "Forum" opposed the inclusion in the "report" of such defamatory words against individual countries. But Japan, disregarding their opposition, plotted the production of this document.

The Geneva Conference on Disarmament is now denouncing the "Tokyo Forum" for such imprudent behaviour as picking on activities of international organizations. Even a newspaper of the United States criticized the "Forum" for questioning only individual countries while ignoring pending issues relating to international nuclear disarmament.

Likewise, the "report" of the "Tokyo Forum" was forcibly adopted in disregard of opposition from participants. Nevertheless, Japan is taking it to the international arena like the United Nations. This itself is ridiculous, indeed.

Japan's behaviour on the eve of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly is intended to cover up its ever more undisguised ambition for nuclear armament and military power, create the impression that Japan is playing a "role" for international peace and security, and incite an atmosphere of pressure upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the United Nations.

It is well-known to the world that Japan frequently organized forums and seminars in the past and made every attempt to discredit the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

These vicious habitual acts of Japan will only add to the world criticism of Japan, which avoids apology and compensation for the crimes of the past stained with aggression, plunder and moral inferiority until today at the threshold of the new century.

Today, when the international situation and relations are getting more complicated, the United Nations and other international organizations should correctly see the ill-intentioned political design of such countries as Japan and consistently maintain the principle of impartiality so as to contribute to world peace and security.

Japan must not attempt to stifle the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, but properly judge the situation, reflect on and review its hostile policy towards it, make sincere apology and adequate compensation for all its past crimes and discard its wild ambition for reinvasion of Korea.